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THE REGISTER

North Carolina A&T
State University
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VOLUME 75, NO. 7

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Q & A



Dr. Millicent Brown, chief plaintiff in the Brown v. School District 20.

Q: Were you aware of the importance of this suit, and what were your feelings as you were going through it?

A: This was a long suit, a suit that took nine years to reach a decision because there was so much opposition surrounding it. I knew the importance of the suit because there were so many people that had tried before me. A few years earlier the Brown v. Board of Education case was decided and everyone knew the importance of that case. My case was basically a case for 11 other suits that had been filed.

My feelings as I was going through the whole nine-year process were unique. I say that because I grew up in a home where this was normal. Challenging civil rights issues in my house was a normal thing. My father, J. Arthur Brown, was the president of the local chapter of the NAACP, and later would be the state president. So this was something that I was used to. We were usually on every desegregation suit that was filed.

One of the things I do remember was being in the seventh grade and having to face the school board of the black school that I went to. I never imagined that I would have been drilled with questions the way I was when I met with them. They asked, well aren't you happy here? And I was. They asked don't you have friends here? And I did. Then why do you want to leave? I told them that I was tired of having the left-over schoolbooks, and I wanted a fair chance to go to a school that had great equipment and great books. There was a principle involved and that principle was that you don't have the right to dictate to me where I want to go to school. I kind of got flippant with these men that were drilling me with questions and I said something along the lines of I think I'll make friends where ever I go.

Q: Where do you see civil rights headed in this new century with a new leader?

A: The rights themselves that are by law? I have a lot of faith that we don't need to panic, but we live in a country where there is de jure and de facto. The laws may say one thing but in fact the practice of those laws is very different. So if you have a certain kind of conservative national leadership it will affect

Please see **BROWN**, Page 3

41 years and counting

By **RANDY ST. CLAIR**
Editor-in-Chief

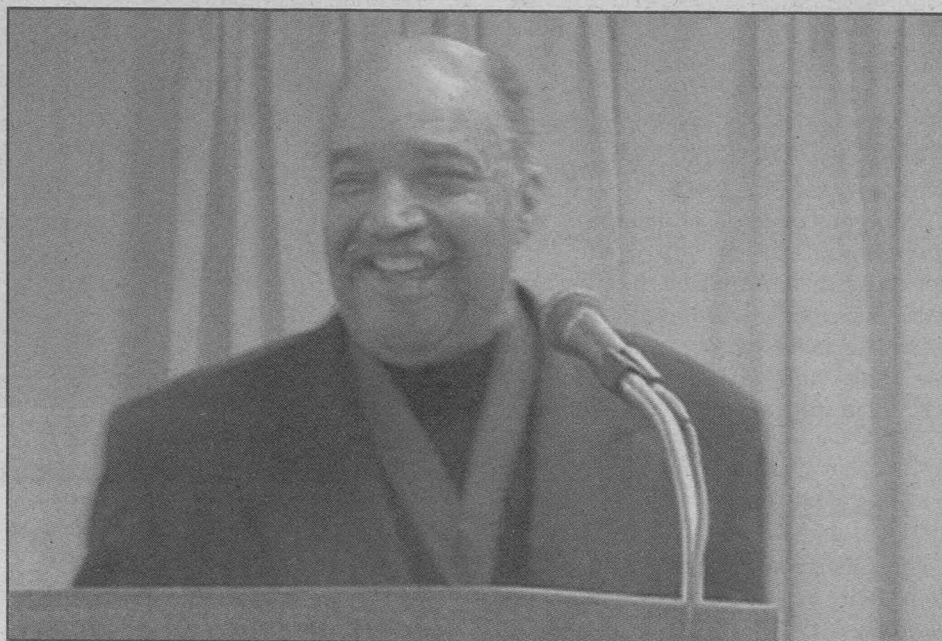
N.C. A&T and the Greensboro community came together Feb. 1 to celebrate 41 years of the Sit-In Movement, and to mark the unveiling of the university's civil rights medal.

As the triumphant voice of civil rights leader Dr. Franklin McCain rang through the Williams Cafeteria Annex, students, faculty and the community of Greensboro listened attentively.

"Feb. 1st was the call to mount up, ride up, and meet the adversary head on," said McCain.

McCain was one of the four N.C. A&T freshmen, better known as The Greensboro Four, who sat-in at a Woolworth's lunch counter and refused to leave until they were served. David L. Richmond, Joseph McNeil and Ezell Blair Jr., later known as Jibreel Khazan, were the others.

McCain was the only one who could be present to speak of the experience and of what students need to be doing today to ensure that civil rights isn't a



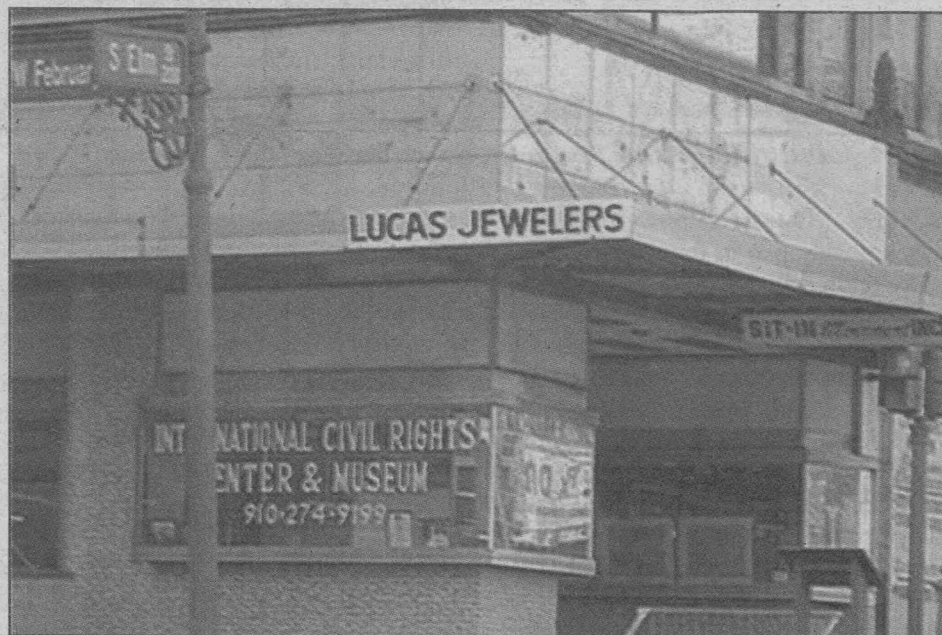
Sharonda Eggleton/Register Staff

Lewis Brandon, winner of the first Human Rights Medal, speaks at a breakfast marking the sit-in movement.

thing of the past.

"You don't need an army like Napoleon's, you don't need 100,000

people or four people to change what's wrong," said McCain. "Vision is all you need." Please see **SIT-IN**, Page 3



Courtney Taylor/Register Staff

The site where the sit-in movement began is slated for a museum honoring civil rights.

Museum leaders say project on schedule despite setbacks

By **WILLIAM DAVIS**
Register Contributor

On Feb. 1, 1960, four black freshmen from N.C. A&T who sat down at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter and refused to leave started the sit-in movement, which spread globally.

Forty-one years later, the International Civil Rights Museum at 134 S. Elm St., which commemorates the four freshmen and the sit-in movement, is nearing completion despite failure of a bond issue last fall by a narrow 49-51 margin.

Even though the \$3 million museum

bond was rejected last November, Jones says that it has not halted the museum's progress.

"The bond was unanticipated. It would have accelerated the project, but it was unanticipated as far as the original plans," said Earl Jones, who serves as vice president of Sit-In Movement Inc.

Jones says that the board, in its eighth year of the museum project, is following the model of the museum in Memphis, Tenn. completed in 12 years and in Birmingham, Ala. completed in

Please see **MUSEUM**, Page 2

Housing ads hit a chord with students

By **T.J. MOORE**
Register Staff Writer

TV and radio ads urging Aggies to live on campus must have worked.

"Attention all A&T Aggies! Housing is available now for Spring Semester!" These ads were thrust into the minds of students and parents throughout the month of December, and the response has been solid.

Over 180 students have registered for campus housing since the advertisements debuted. The Department of Housing and Residence Life reports that 2,821 students live on campus. The number will greatly increase next fall as new housing opens and improvements are made to the existing structures.

The goal of this whole campaign was simple. "We hoped more than anything else that students and parents understand the wonderful opportunities available by living on campus," said Mable Scott, assistant vice chancellor of university relations.

A key factor in the campaign's success is timeliness. "Getting good and timely information to the students was the biggest and the most beneficial thing we can do," said Auxiliary Services Director Todd Johnson.

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Coaches get down to business.
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Shuttle drivers talks about their daily routes.
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IN BRIEF

Family weekend set

N.C. A&T will sponsor its first Family Weekend, April 6-8. The Offices of Alumni Affairs, Admissions and Student Affairs are sponsoring the event.

Plans for the weekend include dinner theater, outdoor gala and cookout, tickets to Piedmont Jazz Festival and Sunday Brunch. Additionally, there will be messages from the chancellor, alumni, and students, campus tours and performances by the choir, cheerleaders and band.

"Parent weekends are sponsored by colleges and universities simply to say 'welcome' and 'thank you,'" said Joanne C. Morgan, director of alumni affairs and coordinator of the event. "For upperclassmen, it may be the only time some parents come to campus."

The weekend package will cost \$40 for adults and \$10 for children. For additional information, please call 334-7583.

Parking lot to open

The Obermeyer Parking Lot will be dedicated in a ceremony at noon Monday.

The 400-car parking area at the corner of Laurel and Obermeyer streets has a pedestrian mall walkway, which is accessible to Market and Bluford Streets. It has an accessible staircase as well as a disability ramp to the lower plaza, located between Holland and Curtis residential halls. A decorative masonry and raw iron wall separates the parking lot from residential buildings on the south side of campus.

Ag has new name

To reflect changes in the agricultural industry, the N.C. A&T Department of Agricultural Education, Economics and Rural Sociology has shifted its focus and taken on a new name: the Department of Agribusiness, Applied Economics and Agriscience Education.

According to Dr. Anthony Yeboah, interim chairperson of the department, the move was driven by changes in the market and by input from the university's corporate partners.

"Years ago, independent small to mid-size farms were numerous, and they were the dominant factor in agriculture," said Yeboah. "Because today's farming enterprises are larger, use more technology and are often owned by corporations, the needs of today's agriculture are different."

The department has not only changed its name, it has also added areas such as sales and marketing, finance, human resources and entrepreneurship to its curriculum.

SGA needs your help

Attention all underclassmen:

Do you know what your tuition will pay for next year? Be sure to attend the Student Fees Forum on tomorrow, Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. "Decisions are being made for you and about you, with or without you."

Student Government Association Full Body Meeting Feb. 12 in McNair Hall Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. If you are a student you ARE a member of the ASGA. Important information will be discussed.

Junior Class full body meeting on Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in room 209 of the Student Union. Thank you for considering working with us.



Courtney Taylor/Register Staff

New housing should help meet some of the needs of A&T's growing student population.

DORM

Continued from page 1

The campus housing situation will get some relief beginning next fall. On the corner of Booker Street, new apartment-style housing is being built. Four hundred of the eventual 800 two-bedroom, two-bathroom suites will be open to students.

MUSEUM

Continued from page 1

14 years. On its current track, the museum will open in four to five years.

"We're on schedule and we're sticking to the original plan," said Jones.

According to Jones, the International Civil Rights museum is entering the second phase, with help from the AFL-CIO, of a three-stage project. The first stage was to pay off the mortgage of the Woolworth building as well as operating expenses. Guilford County, the City of Greensboro, The National Trust of Historical Preservation, the State of North Carolina and 15 other corporations and individuals have made that stage successful by raising approximately \$2.5 million.

The second phase calls for the \$3.1 million renovation of the 72-year-old Woolworth building. The final stage will consist of the drafting of the four major exhibits and learning center.

Though the building is not complete, the museum is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. McArthur Davis, executive director for the museum, says that it has had over 5,000 visitors last year. The museum staff passes out brochures to visitors and shows them the lunch counter where the four freshmen sat.

Davis says that more money will be generated from fund-raisers such as the annual Sit-in Movement banquet, a golf tournament, a walk-a-thon, art collection and from donations. La-Z-Boy recently donated \$10,000 and other individuals have contributed.

Jones says that A&T, which launched the movement, can help by supporting various fund-raising events and providing volunteers.

Brian Johnson, vice president of internal affairs for SGA, says that A&T should be more involved with the museum.

While this was built with private funds, Vice Chancellor of Development David Hoard will set the rent based on the apartment prices in the area.

As far as the existing buildings on campus, help is on the way. First of all, Johnson has been listening to students' ideas to improve life on campus. Decent cable television is a popular item of discussion and there are plans to upgrade the cable system.

Improvements to existing buildings

"I feel that A&T as a university should take a more active role in this fight for the museum because so much has been done here at this university," said Johnson.

Ed Fort, former chancellor for A&T and a member of the 15-member executive board of Sit-In Movement Inc., says the board is focusing on selecting an advisory board, which will provide ideas, suggestions and support for the

"I'm not saying that the concerns are legitimate from either side. None of it is as important as the museum that commemorates history."

Claudette-Burroughs White
Greensboro city council

construction of the building.

"The board supports the concept (of an advisory board) and has received letters from a number of people who want to work on it," said Fort.

Fort is confident that the museum project will be successful.

"It has to be something that the community supports, and I think the community supports it. It's important that we continue to keep the community informed," said Fort.

Some in the community have criticized the pace of the project and failure of the bond, linking them to the leader-

ship of President Skip Alston and Jones. Tom Phillips, a Greensboro city council member says that Alston's and Jones' "politics alienates people."

"We are definitely working on meeting expectations of students with the quality of housing," Johnson said.

"We are definitely working on meeting expectations of students with the quality of housing," Johnson said.

ship of President Skip Alston and Jones.

Tom Phillips, a Greensboro city council member says that Alston's and Jones' "politics alienates people."

"I'm a conservative and I have yet to see someone that doesn't want it (the museum)," says Phillips.

He adds that the concern around the community is that Alston and Jones need to accept a "lesser role" so that money can be raised and the politics in the matter can be eliminated.

Jones blames the News & Record for causing this controversy.

"The Greensboro Four who sat at the counter 41 years ago were not celebrated by the established institutions, they were castigated," said Jones. "Today, the leadership is not celebrated by institutional control. As much as things change, they still stay the same."

Alston was contacted, but he was unavailable for comments.

Claudette-Burroughs White, a Greensboro city councilwoman, disagrees with both sides.

"I'm not saying that the concerns are legitimate from either side. None of it is as important as the museum that commemorates our history. It commemorates one of the greatest things that happened in this state," said White.

Henry Isaacson, executive board member and attorney, said, "I'm not bothered by any controversy. This museum to commemorate the Sit-In movement is too important to pass up. We need to see it through and make it a reality. It needs to be remembered. Fifty years from now people need to say, 'Let's go see it.'"

Foundation awards \$7 million

The National Science Foundation has awarded a five-year information technology research grant worth more than \$7 million to 10 investigators at A&T, Chapel Hill, Duke and Stanford for a collaboration, "Computational Geometry for Structural Biology and

Bioinformatics." Dr. Solomon Bililign, an associate professor in the department of physics at N.C. A&T, is a co-investigator. The proposal is to develop new computational techniques and paradigms for representing, sorting, and simulating biological structures.

SIT-IN

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need and it only takes one person with a vision to change things that have been wrong for years."

McCain went on to say that some of the same battles that were fought when he was a student are the ones student need to be fighting now. He mentioned the higher education bond issue and how money was allocated.

"Do you know that 50 percent of the bond money went to two schools, and I bet those schools weren't A&T or N.C. Central," said McCain. "We received big crumbs, while these other universities received the real stuff. I'm not saying that I am not grateful for what we have, because I am grateful. I am grateful that Hines Hall is going to be rebuilt; it needed rebuilding when I was here. I'm very grateful, but I'm not satisfied."

Inequality and changes in this new century are other things that McCain addressed. McCain says that inequality still exists and that it's more blatant today than ever.

"You don't have to leave campus to face the inequalities of this society, it's right here on this campus," said McCain. "We cannot tolerate it! Don't assume that we have overcome. Things have

gotten better, but we have not overcome."

Chancellor James Renick, following McCain's powerful speech, introduced the Human Rights Medal Design contest winner and the Human Rights Medal recipient. This was the first year for the medal presentations.

Charles Watkins, senior visual arts major, won first place in the medal design contest, with a design featuring the Greensboro Four. Lewis A. Brandon, a 1960 alumnus, was awarded the Human Rights Medal for his ongoing struggle for political, social and economic justice.

"The struggle for human rights is not over, as we've heard this morning from Dr. McCain," said Renick. "It was their protest that changed this country."

Renick also presented awards to the daughter of David Richmond, and to the mother of Joseph McNeil.

Students had the opportunity to address the group with questions. The first question came from Joseph Frierson, president of the Henry Frye Pre-law Society, who asked, "Where can young people find the power to bring forth change?"

A member of the audience decided to answer the question and summed it up in three words.

"Knowledge is power," she said.

selves as civil rights lawyers who are questioning what happens to minority students and poor students when they get in school. There should be some lawsuits that tell about what happens when we get there. It's an ongoing process of equity. I was fortunate enough to be raised in an environment where it was clear what we were fighting for. We were never fighting for black people and white people to be together. That is a human interaction that hopefully one day will occur. This whole business of desegregation was about equity, and those issues have not been solved. There is a need for the Thurgood Marshalls, the Constant Baker Motleys, and the Jack Greenbircks.

Q: How important is it for the African American father to be present in the lives of his children?

A: It is as an important for an African American father to be there as it is for an African American mother to be there. It is important that people take parenthood seriously. I'm not going to get into a man's role versus a woman's role. There is nothing sadder than the lack of recognition of how important it is to think through the idea of becoming a parent. I don't have personal feelings of morality about young mothers. I don't argue those things on moral issues. I argue them on pragmatic issues. People who are young have to understand what it is to be a parent. It is a politically charged environment, like being black in America. It has some serious, serious responsibility. It's not



Sharonda Eggleton/Register Staff

Dr. Franklin McCain talks about challenges old and new.

"Students have to read, read, read and listen to what's being said."

Frierson agreed.

"I'm a firm believer in God and in the Bible the Lord says, 'My people perish from a lack of knowledge.' So it's very important that we take the initiative to learn and to read," said Frierson. "We need to empower ourselves."

McCain stated earlier in the program that one of the evils carried over from

the past century to the 21st is ignorance.

"There are certain things that carried over from the past century, among them is ignorance," said McCain. "It's time that students become familiar with the issues that are affecting their lives."

The morning program was followed by a panel discussion in the afternoon and a speech by Brandon in the evening.

BROWN

Continued from page 1

the way everyone in this country feels about the implementation of these laws. Yes, national leadership is very important, but we've had so many situations to see that. We've had Reagan years, we've had Nixon years, we've had Carter years, we've seen ups and downs. So that should not be new to us. We must keep our eyes on national leadership. Mostly not to change the laws but for change of energy to implement laws and also policy. Laws are one thing but policy is another. Policies are a lot harder to attack.

Q: How do you feel about lawyers such as Thurgood Marshall who take on cases like yours?

A: I think there is a real need for civil rights law, and for well-meaning black and white people, certainly and especially blacks, to recognize the need for ongoing vigilance. The Harvard law school recently honored the entire legal team that argued *Brown v. Board of Education*. Some of those attorneys are still alive and spoke, and they were quite clear in their statements that this is not a done deal. Schools, desegregation and the whole business of how public schools serve people of color, minorities and the poor. That is an issue just as relevant today as it was in '54. Not because there is a law that says you can't go to this school or that school, but policy, vouchers, the privatization of education. We need lawyers who see them-

only the social, emotional, or economical aspect of it. There is some politically realities for young people who aren't sure what civil rights or civil liberties are really all about. How do we make our young people understand what racial profiling is? We need to understand that if we think politically it will carry over this idea of parenting. To be political is to say I have to under

Q: What doors did this case open for you, if any? And what advice would you give the students at A&T about overcoming adversity and challenging authority?

A: Some of us you were involved in some early desegregation suits were scapegoats. It's hard for me to see any doors that were being opened for me, to be perfectly honest with you. All I knew was that I had three miserable years of high school that I tried to make the best of, and ran away from the South to a school in the North because I thought the problem was regional. I was very wrong about that. An institutional racism permeated this country and I couldn't run away by getting out of South Carolina.

I'm sure that there were students after us that benefited from what we went through. It's hard for me to answer that question because at the time the guidance counselors at my school were not willing to tell me about any other predominantly white school. Their attitude was, okay you got through us but we aren't about to send you to South Carolina or Clemson. I'm not saying

that I didn't have any advantages it was just hard for me to see them at that time.

What do I say to A&T students about challenge? First of all I say challenge is not negative. Now you can decide to challenge something negatively, because maybe you like to hear yourself talk or you like the idea that you are going against the grain for no other reason than going against the grain. I say you must be weary of that and understand that when you feel that you have a position you must be afraid to articulate it but you have to learn how to articulate and you have to learn what are you talking about. If it's one thing I've learned you have to know what you talking about. That's the test. Whether you're challenging for your own ego or you have some positive result for the better good that you are really looking for.

I ask young people why aren't they asking more questions? We aren't going to tell you what to do; it's not our role to tell you what to do. But there is a humility that young people need to bring to the older generation.

Q: What does Black History Month mean to you?

A: It means staying busy. It means a moment to reflect. Sometimes, sadly, it is a reminder that we aren't doing something for 11 months.

There's nothing wrong with having a month of celebration, I'm not saying that. But it is a constant reminder that you don't put the brakes on the last day in February never to revisit these issues again until the following year.

Police make arrests in connection with fake \$20 bills

BY RANDY ST.CLAIR
Editor-In-Chief

N.C. A&T police may have solved the mystery of the counterfeit \$20 bills that have been floating around campus.

Police said Brandon Worthy, 18, was arrested and charged with obtaining property by false pretenses, and Vincent Kelly, 18, of 5965 Britains Dr., Belews Creek, was arrested and charged with first-degree trespassing. Police said Worthy and Kelly were found passing out counterfeit 20s in Scott Hall on Jan. 25.

Police say that Worthy, a student at

A&T, and Kelly, a non-student, were making the bills on Worthy's computer in his dorm room.

Sgt. Marty Tillery made the arrests. He said authorities are not sure if they had anything to do with counterfeit 20s found earlier in the Aggie Den.

"We don't yet have the serial numbers to the money that was found earlier," said Tillery. "Right now we don't want to make any assumptions, but it's a relief that we caught them before things really got out of hand."

Earlier in the week, three reports had been filed about vendors receiving

counterfeit money from students. No one had been arrested, however, because the students who were found with the money said they didn't know it was counterfeit. Campus police then began a thorough investigation. On the night of Jan. 25, the puzzle was solved by a delivery guy from Vinnie's Pizza. After delivering the pizza and returning to the restaurant the delivery guy noticed that the money he was given by Worthy was real.

"At that point the delivery man called A&T campus police and informed us about what happened," said Tillery.

Campus police went to Scott Hall and asked the resident assistant if he knew of anyone that just bought some food from Vinnie's Pizza. The resident assistant said he did and gave the officers the name and room number of Worthy.

Police then apprehended Worthy and Kelly, who was in the room.

Bail was set at \$2,500 for each of the men. The Guilford County Sheriff's Department said they have been released.

The case is now in the hands of the U.S. Secret Service.

Randy St. Clair, *editor-in-chief*

Kariston McPherson, *news editor*

Dijon Rolle, *staff writer*

Chris Wallace, *sports writer*

Mia Ross, *entertainment writer*

Latoya Best, *copy editor/staff writer*

T.J. Moore, *staff writer*

Jason Boyd, *advertising manager*

Valerie Nieman, *faculty adviser*

Sharonda Eggleton, Tarah Holland

and Courtney Taylor, *photography staff*

EDITORIAL POLICY

Editorials reflect the opinions of the A&T Register but not necessarily those of the university. Views in guest commentaries and letters to the editor are those of the writer.

THE A&T REGISTER

Box E-25, 1601 E. Market St.
Greensboro, NC 27411

Best is yet to come if you step up to the challenge

How do we erase the bad memories of the past that linger through our minds every day?

What river must we cross to get past all the negative that life brings so that we can live each day to the fullest?

College is that place or that next level where most of us thought we'd escape the petty girlfriend, boyfriend drama, or get the opportunity to find out what it is God has planned for our lives.

The question has been posed time and time again. Who are you? In one word, describe who you are?

You are fidelity.

You are loyal African American students who see the prize that Dr. King spoke of, who see the light at the end of the tunnel, who sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.

Take a look around you and bask in what God has given you and made you to be. No he's not complete yet and that's the great thing about it.

The crazy thing about college, or life for that matter, is that when you get to a place where you really want to be it's never as good as the place where you never thought you'd be but you're there because God wants you to be.

For many of us, college looked bleak, life looked bleak. But there's a reason why you are here. That reason is the challenge that has been issued to us by our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents. That challenge is to be better than what they were. That challenge is to keep going and never get complacent. Never get to the point where you feel there's nothing left for you to do, for there's always something that needs to be done.

This generation, you and I, have been accused of being so nonchalant and so non-caring that we'd forget the history of our forefathers just for a party or a drink.

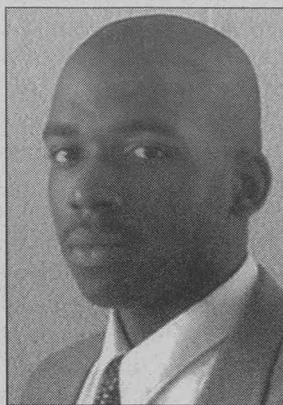
For a moment I ask you to forget the cars, the girls, the guys, the clothes and the money. Forget all the materialistic stuff. We all know that material items can be replaced, but the words of your mother and father cannot. Hang on to those words. Accept the challenge they have laid before you.

Find out why the caged bird sings. Truly the sky is the limit. I've accepted the challenged lain before me. It's time to right the wrong, to change the face of politics. Adversity you're going to face, and adversity you will overcome.

I'd hate to think that the reason I didn't cross the Jordan was because I didn't care to. I'd hate to think that A&T students didn't cross the Jordan because a car or a party was more important.

A land flowing with milk and honey awaits you after you leave this place, and the only way you'll ever obtain what's in that land is if you accept the challenge to get to the land.

Straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads to life, and few find it.



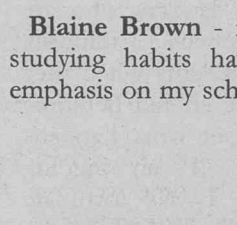
RANDY ST. CLAIR

AGGIES TALK BACK!!!

Is college life what you thought it would be after one semester?



April Burriss - freshman, public relations - "Well, in certain aspects yes and then in some no. I was expecting to have classes where teachers lectured the entire time and didn't care to get to know the individual student. I also expected to be overwhelmed with pressures of going to parties. However I do have to be smarter with managing my time and taking care of responsibilities."



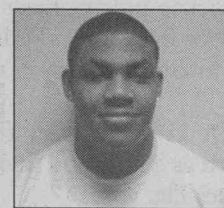
Blaine Brown - freshman, biology - "No, because my studying habits have changed, and I'm putting more emphasis on my school work."



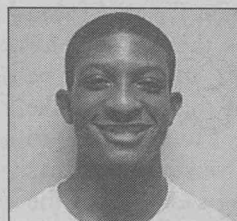
Tasha McAllister - freshman, ECT - "Yes in ways and no in others. Yes because I knew school would be more challenging and no because I thought there would be more things to do on and off campus."



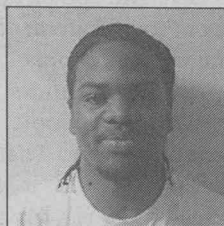
Chris Anderson - freshman, chemical engineering - "Yeah it's what I expected it to be. I knew it would be hard to balance my school work and social life."



Chris Chappell - freshman, architectural engineering - "Yeah, I think so. While in high school, I attended summer programs that had me stay on college campuses while interacting with college students. Therefore, I had experience and knew what to expect coming into A&T."



Dannie Gore - freshman, ECT - "Yes, it's pretty much what I expected. It's a little harder being on my own than I thought it would be."



LEST WE FORGET

In celebration of Black History Month.

Langston Hughes was born in Joplin, Mo., in 1902. His parents were divorced when he was a small child and his father moved to Mexico. He was raised by his grandmother until he was 12, when he moved to Lincoln, Ill., to live with his mother and her husband. It was during his high school years that Hughes began writing poetry.

Following graduation, he spent a year in Mexico and a year at Columbia University and travelled to Africa and Europe. He moved to Harlem, N.Y., in November 1924. Hughes first book of poetry, "The Weary Blues," was published by Alfred A. Knopf in 1926. He finished his college education at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania three years later.

Hughes, who claimed Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Carl Sandburg, and Walt Whitman as his primary influences, is particularly known for his insightful, colorful portrayals of black life in America from the '20s through the '60s.

He wrote novels, short stories and plays, as well as poetry, and is also known for his engagement with the world of jazz and the influence it had on his writing, as in "Montage of a Dream Deferred." His life and work were enormously important in shaping the artistic contributions of the Harlem

Renaissance of the 1920s. Unlike other notable black poets of the period--Claude McKay, Jean Toomer, and Countee Cullen--Hughes refused to differentiate between his personal experience and the common experience of black America. He wanted to tell the stories of his people without personalizing them, so the reader could step in and draw his own conclusions. Hughes died in 1967.

Books written by Hughes

"The Weary Blues" (1926)
"Fine Clothes to the Jew" (1927)
"Dear Lovely Death" (1931)
"The Dream Keeper (1932) For children"

"Scottsboro Limited (1932) Plays and poems"

"Shakespeare in Harlem" (1942)

"Freedom's Plow" (1943)

"Fields of Wonder Fields of Wonder" (1947)

"One Way Ticket" (1949)

"Montage of a Dream Deferred" (1951)

"Selected Poems" (1959)

"Ask Your Mama: Twelve Moods for Jazz" (1961)

"Collected Poems of Langston Hughes" (1994)

Langston Hughes one of the world's greatest poets now and forever.

Campus buzzing about McNair program

University officials say it was cancelled because of poor planning

By **DIJON ROLLE**
Register Staff Writer

The 15th anniversary of the Challenger explosion was celebrated quietly on the campus of N.C. A&T.

The tragedy claimed the lives of all seven members of its crew, including N.C. A&T graduate, Ronald McNair.

However, McNair's alma mater cancelled its annual program for this year. Instead, the university honored the astronaut by holding a physics lecture on campus and including other smaller activities to remember McNair. The cancellation of such a significant event has many students, faculty and members of the community not only disappointed, but puzzled as well.

Tony Reames, a junior civil engineer major from Bishopville, S.C., shares in the confusion.

"I heard that the program had been rescheduled for a different day due to it falling on Super Bowl Sunday, and because the chancellor wanted maximum participation from the students," said Reames. "I've attended the program for the past two years and I was disappointed."

Lance Joyner, a history major from Greensboro and an A&T graduate, said he had been to the Ronald McNair programs before, and was really looking forward to this year's program.

"I went to a couple of the programs when I was a student and I was looking forward to attending this year's since I still live in Greensboro," said Joyner. "It's kind of embarrassing to think that his own school isn't showing him as much love as in previous years."

However, Tenika Porteru, a senior

psychology major from Charlotte, has a different opinion.

"I heard that the plans for the program weren't organized very well, and I agree that out of respect it should have been cancelled, rather than just throwing something together at the last minute," said Porteru.

Rumors explaining the cancellation have been circulating around campus. Some students have their own ideas, while others blame university officials, particularly Chancellor James Renick.

Whether it was a matter of cutting costs, inadequate planning, lack of student participation, university politics or even competition from this year's SuperBowl, the fact remains that the program was still cancelled.

Dr. Roselle Wilson, vice-chancellor of student affairs, was involved closely in the matter.

"The real reason for the cancellation is that there was some very poor planning in terms of the event itself," said Wilson.

Wilson went on to say that a sufficient budget for the event had not been presented and that funds for the program had not been properly secured.

"There are two essential pieces for any program and you have to know what you're going to do and how much it's going to cost and then you can plan," said Wilson.

"We did not want any last-minute haphazard planning. At the time we were not convinced that we were going to have a successful event."

When asked about the date of the program coinciding with SuperBowl Sunday, Wilson agreed that the game

was a factor, but not a major one.

"There's always a risk that you take when you plan certain events but that's part of the planning process. You certainly can't ignore the fact that something else is going on in the world and that people's attention might be averted," said Wilson.

In turn, the decision to cancel the program was made by several of the executive officers of the university, including Wilson.

"We were all equally concerned, and when certain details for the program were not available, one week beforehand, that sounded the alarm," said Wilson.

A committee made up of students and faculty is in charge of planning these types of events, including the McNair program. Members of the committee include SGA president Nikkita Mitchell, Director for Student Activities Marva Watlington and Associate Vice-Chancellor for Student Development Dr. Dorothy Harris. Members of the committee were asked to give their

thoughts on the issue.

"The poor planning cannot be placed on the shoulders of any one person, especially not students," said Mitchell. "Despite this, several key oversights were made. On the same note the reasons for cancelling the program were misreported to several students through word of mouth." Mitchell also stressed that students, university officials and members of the planning committee were in agreement and are working to continue to provide quality programming.

The Wilson and other university officials are looking into the overall planning process that is required to prepare for events, like the McNair program. Wilson also says that the university is looking into developing a university calendar that would contain the dates for annual events and programs.

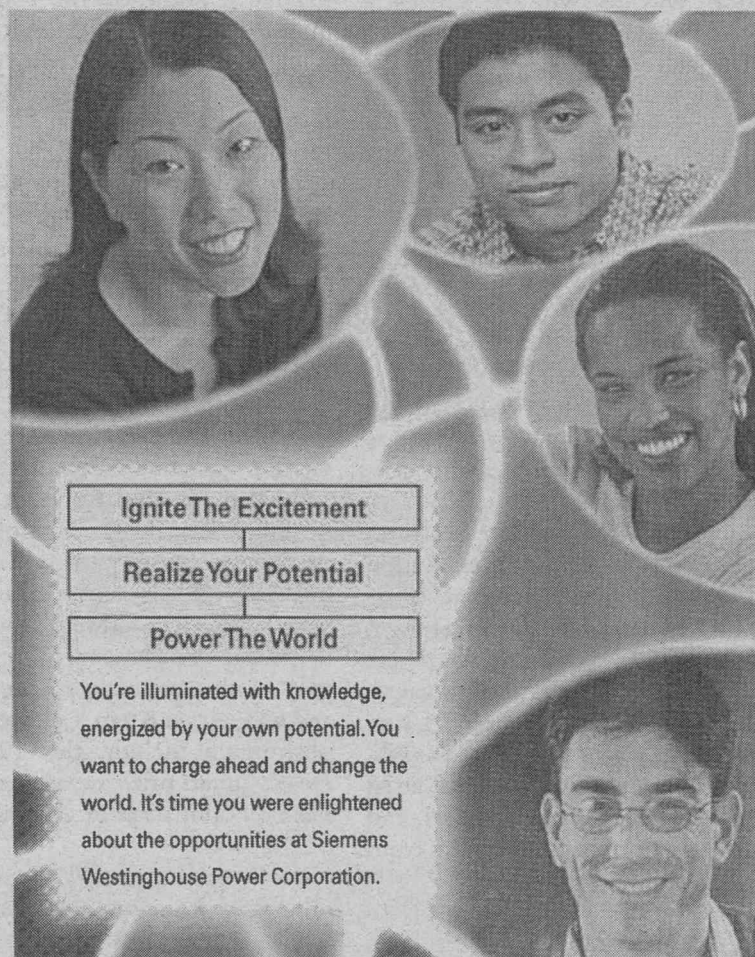
Wilson also urged students to seek out answers to any questions that they may have concerning campus issues: "The best way to communicate is to ask questions."

Alex Haley is a member. Are you?



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Harrison players hit the road

A&T play opens for regional competition

By MIA S. ROSS
Register Staff Writer

The Richard B. Harrison players have done it again. The award-winning group will be opening the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival with "Blues for an Alabama Sky." This regional competition will take place at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The Harrison players will go up against such schools as Clemson, Duke, and the University of Alabama, Florida

and other schools. A&T will be the only black college featured.

Jae Simms, who plays Sam in the play, says it's a great honor but a great deal of responsibility.

"We have a very prime position and it's great that they recognize African American art work, but we also have to be careful of what we do while we are there because we are not only representing A&T but also the black community," he said.

"Blues for an Alabama Sky" tells the story of a young woman from Harlem

who has been fired from the Cotton Club in Harlem and finds her fortune in a young man from Alabama.

Simms says this play really portrays the time period.

"This play goes through all of African American life, the African American struggle through the Depression. It gives all of the African American culture through this time period the art, poetry, songs, and dance," he said.

Other cast members are Chris Bolden, Morgan Jones, Robyn Douglas

and Theo Ogunyode. Frankie Day Greenlee directs this production.

With this invitation, the Harrison players also mark another record in the region by being the only school with the highest number of invitations to the regional event.

The group had to raise over \$3,000 to go to the competition. Benefit performances were held last week toward that goal.

The competition dates are set for Feb. 7-10 with A&T's opening on Feb. 8.

The **WORD** I heard...

By MIA S. ROSS
Register staff writer

The word I heard is that the Jackson Five is going to make another album. This time with all six brothers. This is the first album after the early '80s Victory album.

Let's just hope Michael's hair doesn't catch on fire again.

Damon Wayans will be starting a new television show in March called "My Wife and My Kids."

The show will have guest appearances featuring celebrities and of course his

brothers and sister.

The master of funk himself is in a battle trying to get the rights to his music he wrote from 1976 through 1983.

A judge in Florida says that the contract that George Clinton signed in 1983 forfeiting his music to a recording company is still valid, leaving the master penniless. Some of the songs written during this time are 'Atomic Dog' and 'One Nation Under a Groove.'

The royalties for the songs are estimated at \$100 million.

Special arts events highlight Black History Month at A&T

By JASON BOYD
Register Staff Contributor

The month of February will feature a host of events at N.C. A&T to celebrate and commemorate African Americans and their accomplishments.

The university's Mattye Reed African Heritage Center will host an exhibition of oil paintings and Christmas ornaments by the artist Clementine Hunter. Hunter was 50 years old when she taught herself to paint, and began a career as a folk artist. In her 101-year lifetime, Hunter went from being a child living in Louisiana to a successful artist producing over 5,000 pieces of art, and earning an honorary degree from Northwestern University.

Her pieces can be located in places such as the High Museum of Atlanta, the Dallas Art Museum, and the Historic African House of Melrose Plantation in Louisiana. On March 15, Dr. Regina Perry, a professor emerita at Virginia Commonwealth University,

and a African American folk art scholar, will present a slide show in Harrison Auditorium from 6-7 p.m. For more information about Hunter exhibit, contact Dr. Conchita Ndege at 334-4378.

On Feb. 10, Paul Robeson Theatre is hosting a free program entitled "Music of Magic, Mystery and Romance," a musical performance by award-winning pianist Michael Caldwell, chairperson of the music department. This event is a part of the university's Lyceum Series, and will start at 8 p.m. Caldwell's accomplishments include the 1976 G. B. Dealey grand prize award, and the 1991 Pianist Foundation of America "Pianist of the Year."

The Lyceum Series is sponsoring two other free programs. Anna M. Johnson-Webb, who goes by her stage name "Kemba," is performing "American History Live" at 7 p.m. Feb. 13 in the Memorial Union Ballroom.

Also, the E. Gwynn Dancers will give a performance at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27 in Corbett Gym.

Join the Aggie family for a cruise down Mexico way

No travel plans yet for early summer? Join the Aggie family on a cruise to Cozumel Mexico June 4-8.

Leaving from Miami, The Carnival's Fascination will sail to Key West where Aggies will have a few hours to enjoy the laid-back feel of this city. From there the ship will set sail for Playa del Carmen, Mexico where we will have the opportunity to tour the Mayan ruins and learn a bit of the history. From

here we move on to Cozumel's hot spots.

Cruise prices range from \$527.25 to \$653. Prices reflect a 5 percent discount for alumni members. The first payment was due Feb. 2, but may be combined with the second payment due March 2. The balance is due April 6.

For more information, contact Dr. JC Morgan at Office of Alumni Affairs, 334-7583 or Fax 334-7165.

"Double Take" hits the box office

By MIA S. ROSS
Register Staff Writer

Have you ever seen someone you thought was someone else, and after

hollering their name across the world you take a double take and realize that it is not them at all?

The movie "Double Take" finds successful New York investment

banker Daryl Chase (Orlando Jones) suddenly on the run and switching identities with a petty thief named Freddy Tiffany (Eddie Griffin).

Until now, Daryl's had the good life. But everything is turned upside down when he is framed for laundering millions for a Mexican drug cartel.



Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

Daryl Chase and Freddy Tiffany must switch places in order to save their lives. The duo add a hilarious twist to a serious scandal.

worse, Daryl discovers that his new identity, Freddy, is more on the run than he is. This comedy tells the story of a getaway you will not believe.

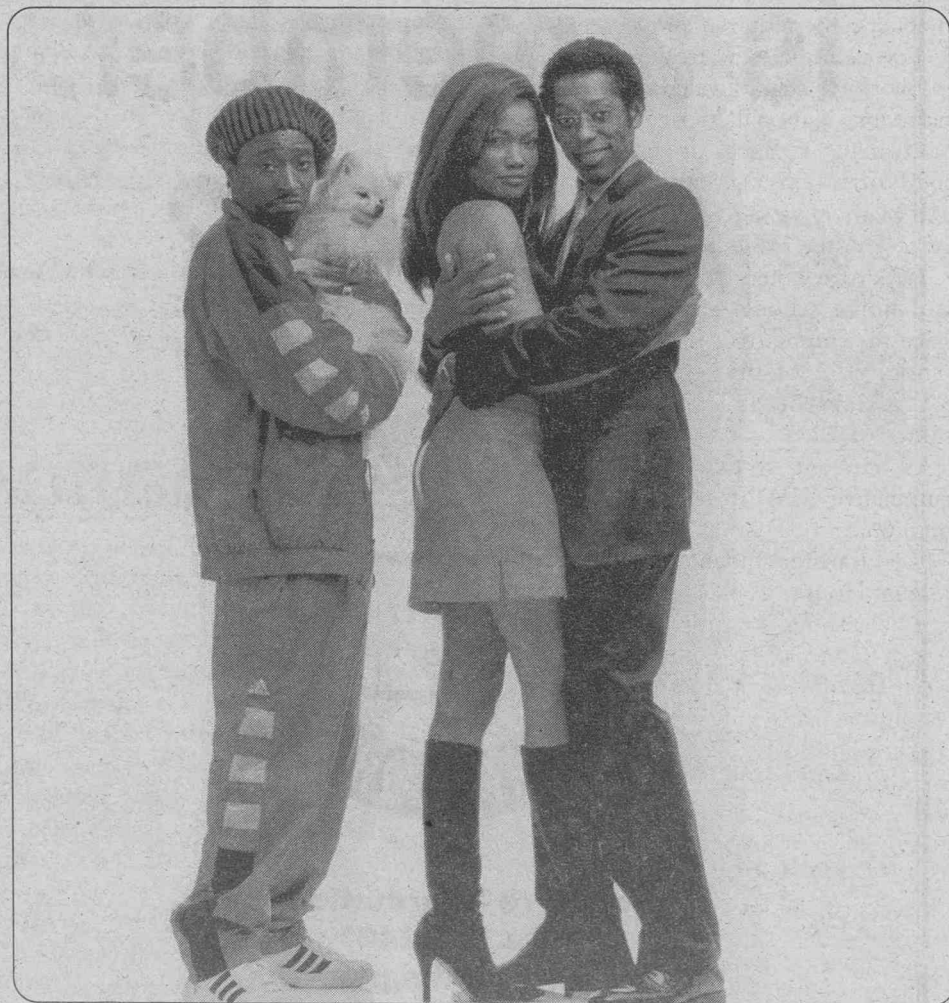


Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

"Double Take" stars Eddie Griffin, the Pomeranian Delores, Garcelle Beauvais and Orlando Jones.

SHUTTLE STORIES

Complaints may get an answer if new buses are purchased this fall

BY TARAH HOLLAND
Register Contributor

To avoid long walks around campus, many students ride the Aggie Shuttles. But as the number of students attending A&T continues to rise, problems with the shuttle service also are increasing.

Two shuttle vans operate on campus and one commutes to and from the Aggie Oaks. A contracted shuttle runs between the campus and the Aggie Inn.

According to four-year shuttle driver Orville Pass, breakdowns are a major problem.

"Brakes have to be replaced on the shuttles about every six months due to the amount of weight they support," said Pass. "When the shuttles are being serviced, there are no substitutes or replacements."

The shuttles run from 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., five days a week. At the end of every day, shuttles go through a brief evaluation that includes oil, tire and transmission checks.

Every third week of each month, drivers estimate and report the average number of students who ride the shuttles. Shuttle driver George Hairston says he picks up about 500 students a day.

"Since I have been driving the shuttles, I have noticed a larger variety of men and women riders. I don't think that the vans we have now can take much more of the wear and tear that they have been taking," said Hairston.

Pass agrees, saying that, "All other colleges in the area use buses. We desperately need to get in line with other schools if we're going to have a shuttle program and run it efficiently, and in



Tarah Holland/Register Staff

Shuttle drivers Orville Pass and George Hairston say that the system just has too many riders and not enough seats on the vans.

order for us to do this we need the proper equipment."

Lack of space is one of the first things noticed by those who ride the shuttles. The current campus shuttles hold up to 15 passengers each. Hairston, who has been driving the shuttle for two years, said larger vans would help significantly.

"These vans are made mainly for traveling; not for shuttling students. It's just too much weight," said Hairston.

Both drivers hear complaints from students who say the shuttles are not on time or that the vans are not large

enough. They agree that students should be at their stops on time because they have schedules to keep. They also say that students can help keep the shuttles clean by taking their trash.

The shuttle system falls under Parking Services, which is a branch of the campus police department. According to Joseph E. Daughtry, director of police and public safety, relief in the shuttle situation may come as early as next fall.

"Last year there were no funds to purchase buses. This year we are looking into purchasing two new buses. We are

currently pricing and may see improvements in the fall, though we are making no guarantees," said Daughtry.

Daughtry added that one benefit of new buses is that they would all be equipped for handicapped students.

He encourages any students with concerns to contact his office.

"We want students to keep riding," said Daughtry. "The shuttles are for them. If there are any problems let us know by calling or coming into the office. Also if any students have any suggestions, let us know."

Honors program attracts the best and brightest Aggies

BY LATOYA BEST
Register Staff Writer

The Honors Program started nearly two years ago for incoming freshmen and current A & T students who excelled academically. They also had to meet specific requirements.

For example, new freshmen who are public high school valedictorians/salutatorians, National Merit/Achievement Scholarship finalists or students from the North Carolina School of Sciences and Mathematics are automatically invited to join the program.

Other freshmen from charter, private and home schools are eligible if they have a cumulative unweighted high school GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and SAT scores of at least 1050 or ACT scores of 22.

All current students must have a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.5 and a minimum of 15 credit hours.

Even transfer students are encouraged to join. Honors courses taken elsewhere can be counted towards completing the A & T Honors Program.

But are students jumping at the chance to join the program?

According to Dr. Peter Meyers, interim director of the honors program, they are. There are 207 students currently in the program. The estimated enrollment goal was 175 students by fall 2001.

"We really underestimated the interest on campus of our students," Meyers said.

Students from the School of Business and Economics and the College of Engineering make up the largest presence of the program. The next largest

group of students comes from the College of Arts and Sciences.

However, Meyers said that up to this year the program has had trouble retaining students.

"We keep bringing in big freshmen classes," Meyers said, "but we need to do a better job making sure our students come back year after year."

Out of 120 students left in the program by the end of school last year, 116 students came back to school this year.

"These are students that could have transferred anywhere," Meyers said.

Ideally, a student should be in the

Honors Program all four years. At Commencement students will be given public recognition. In addition, Honor Program graduates will wear special sashes or some other symbol of high accomplishment over the standard gown worn by all of the other students.

He said that the Honors Program helps students stay at the university by working with students earlier. He also noted that since the program is so new it would take some time for a higher retention rate. The program has heavily relied on continuous recruiting and word of mouth to make more students

aware. Other strategies include placing flyers around campus, providing information at this past University Day and letting students already in the program take information to their schools. Admissions help with recruiting, too.

Meyers said that enrolling is strictly up to students.

"We don't put pressure on students to join. It's purely voluntary," he said.

For now two goals for the program are retaining current students and seeing more students from the College of Arts and Sciences enroll.

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Aggies thrash UMES, 74-54

By CHRIS WALLACE
Register Staff Writer

On Jan. 27 at the Corbett Sports Center, the N.C. A&T men's basketball team put on another show in front of a good crowd, rolling past the University of Maryland Eastern Shore by a score of 74-54.

It was like another day at the office for the Aggies as they took only six and a half minutes to begin cruising. Their lead ballooned to as much as 28 in the game during a couple of occasions.

"From start to finish, I believe this was our best game so far," said Aggie head coach Curtis Hunter.

"When this team does what it's supposed to do, then we can write our own story. We have proved we can win at home, and now we must prove we can

win away from home as well."

A&T led 37-22 at the half, but when UMES pulled to within nine at 41-32, A&T answered with a 13-2 run to put the game out of reach.

During that stretch, senior point guard J.J. Miller scored 10 straight points. He finished with 19 points, eight rebounds and three steals.

Junior center Jafar Taalib turned in a nice performance also, with 18 points and five rebounds. "We knew what was on the line coming into this game," said Taalib. "As far as Howard, we must be ready to play because they are a lot better than they were last year. Our job is to take care of business like we've been doing."

The win extends the Aggies' current home record to 6-0.

Aggies survive Bison scare

By CHRIS WALLACE
Register Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Two of the rising teams in the MEAC met last Monday, fighting for a higher position in the MEAC.

The Aggies of N.C. A&T may be the hottest team in the league, entering the contest with three straight wins and wins in seven of their last nine games. Howard, however, entered with a shaky 7-10 overall record, 5-3 MEAC, but upset highly touted South Carolina State 68-66 a few days earlier.

The result of this contest? A&T 75, Howard 70.

It took an entire half to awaken the Aggies as they got off to a slow start that nearly cost them later in the game. The Aggies shot only 38 percent in the

first half while yielding 52 percent to Howard, and trailed 40-33 at halftime.

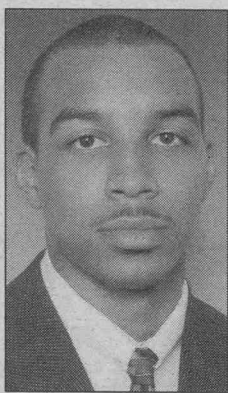
Things would change drastically in the second half. A&T came out very aggressive on offense and defense. Junior forward Bruce Jenkins led the way for the Aggies, scoring 24 points and pulling down 12 rebounds.

The player of the game, though, had to be sophomore guard Landon Beckwith. Beckwith showed up in the second half, turning in 13 points and helping A&T to shoot 61 percent while holding Howard to 31 percent in the second half.

"We needed something to pick us up in the second half," said Aggie head coach Curtis Hunter. "Landon gave us a big spark and Bruce has been big since returning from his back injury."

The win pushes the Aggies to 9-8 overall, 6-2 in the MEAC and sole possession of second place in the MEAC. It was the fourth consecutive win for the streaking Aggies and the eighth win in their last 10 games.

A&T hosts Delaware State Feb. 5 in the Corbett Center, then travels to Florida A&M on Feb. 10.



Beckwith

Lady Aggies hope to bounce back from Howard defeat against DSU

By T.J. MOORE
Register Staff Writer

The Lady Aggies basketball team will do battle Feb. 5 at the Corbett Center against the mediocre Delaware State Lady Hornets in MEAC action.

Despite their 5-4 conference record and their 7-10 overall record, the Lady Hornets match up well with the Lady Aggies. The Lady Hornets have had their share of turnover problems all season, averaging 23.2 turnovers per game, while the Lady Aggies are averaging a staggering 27.6 turnovers per game.

The keys in this game, like in just about every game this season, is to stop coughing up the ball and play sound defense.

The Lady Hornets, just like the Lady Aggies, only have one consistent scoring threat. DSU guard Chavonne Stewart averages 14.9 points per game and is a huge part of the Lady Hornets' attack. To increase their chances in this game, the Lady Aggies must shut her down.

One positive that the Lady Aggies have on their side in this game is the emerging scoring presence of freshman guard Camille Akins.

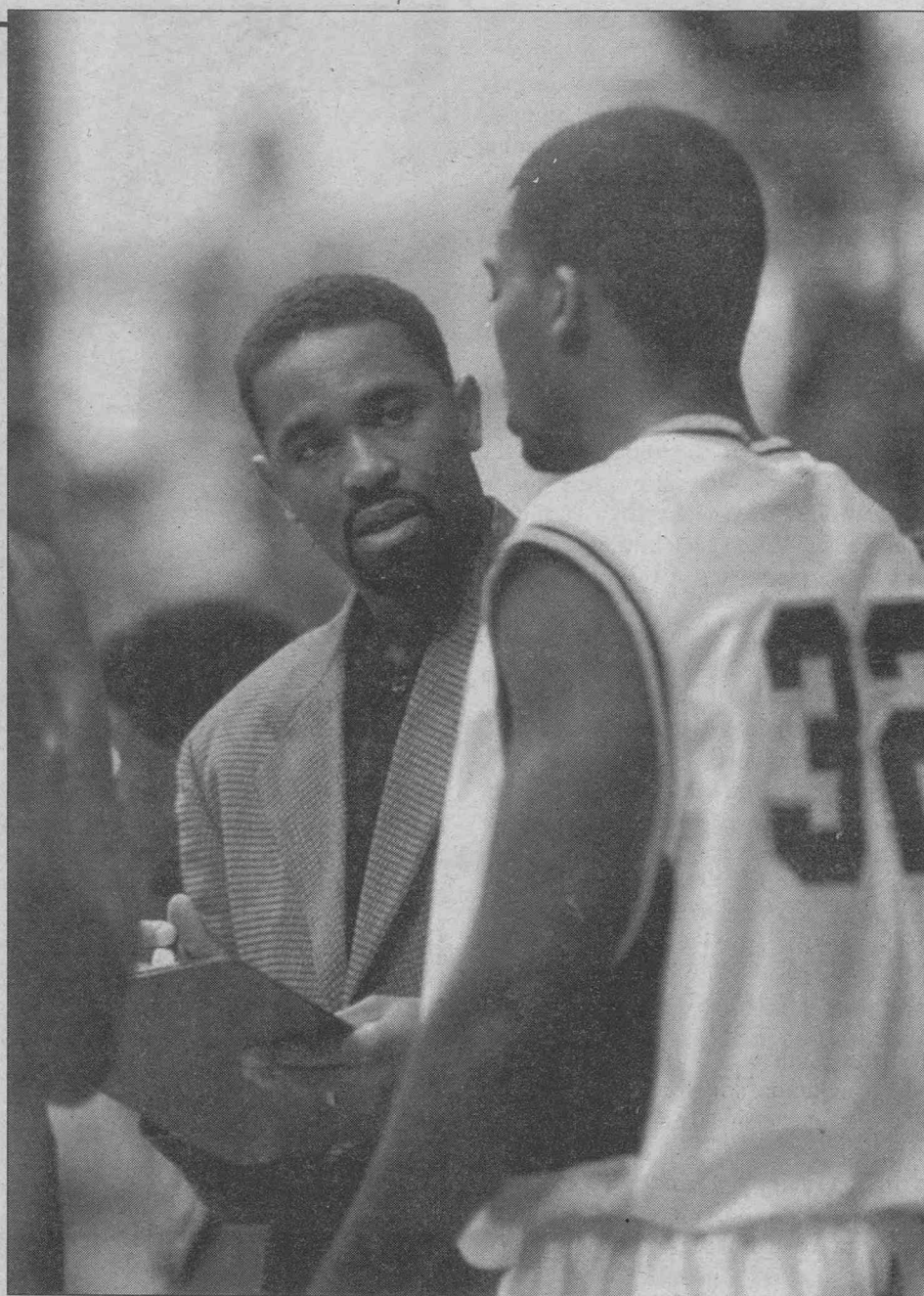
She had a solid game against Howard on Jan. 29, despite the team being smoked by the Lady Bisons 112-70. Akins scored 23 points, while Malveta Johnson chipped in with 12 points and 1A2 rebounds.

If this trend continues, with one additional player sharing the scoring load with Johnson, the Lady Aggies will have a chance to stay in the game.

The Lady Aggies will face the Lady Rattlers of FAMU on Feb. 10 and conclude a two-game Florida road trip against the Bethune-Cookman Lady Wildcats on the 12th.



Akins



Charles Watkins/A&T Photo

Coach Curtis Hunter, with playbook in hand, is steering junior forward Bruce Jenkins in the right position in recent action. Jenkins has proved that he has risen above his back injury by leading the Aggies with 24 points and grabbing 12 boards in A&T's victory over Howard. At this point in the season, the Aggies control their MEAC title hopes and even their NCAA playoff destiny.

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Coaches see bright future for track teams

Senior Jermichael Watts qualifies for NCAA championships

By SHARONDA EGGLETON
Register Staff Writer

The midpoint of the indoor track season brings much promise for the A&T men's track team and a bright future for our ladies.

Coach Roy Thompson Jr., who has been coaching since 1974, can look at the men's performance in the indoor track season as a great lead into the out-

door season.

Senior Jermichael Watts has already qualified for the NCAA championships in the high jump, with a jump of 7-2. Ranked 10th in the nation last year, he continues to be a leader.

Other strong points of the men's team are the 400, 200, 100 and 60.

The 4x4 team consisting of sophomore Charles Shoffner, junior Seneca Rogers, junior John Twitty and junior Danny Campbell. To date, they have the fastest time with a 3:16:34.

A&T also has three outstanding short sprinters, sophomore Timothy Walls, junior Monte Wilds and senior Titus Haygood — ranked 1, 2 and 4 in the conference in the 200, as well as 1, 3 and 4 in the 60-meter dash.

In the top 10 percent of all Division 1 track teams, the A&T men have shown outstanding times and performance thus far this year.

Three fresh faces to watch will be Gerald Wright, a new athlete here at A&T, long and triple-jumper Everett Bruce and long jumper Khlil Green, who are both freshmen.

For the ladies, the sprints have been the premiere event, much as with the men's team. Junior Danielle Fowler and Jennifer Dashiell are expected to place in the top eight in sprints.

Thought many of the team members are fairly new, much of the team's leadership will be expected from sophomores Stacey Leah and Brena Cooper.

The freshmen to watch are Karon Thomas, Sara Waters and LiTiyah Kirby.



Sharonda Eggleton/A&T photos

Coach Tonya McKelvey-White talks to two of her athletes during a recent practice. She stresses hard work and dedication to succeeds on the track and in life.

Although the team as a whole could be doing better, Coach Tonya McKelevey-White expects that with more work, the ladies could have a promising future.

Remaining 2001 indoor track & field meets:

Feb. 9-10: Virginia Tech., Blacksburg, Va.

Feb. 22-24, MEAC Championships, UMES, Prince Anne, Md.

March 2-3, U.S. Track & Field Nationals, Georgia Dome, Atlanta

March 8-10, NCAA Championship University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.

Women's track coach stresses dedication

KIM WILSON
Register Contributor

Tonya McKelvey-White is entering her third year as the head coach of the N.C. A&T women's track and cross-country teams.

She came to A&T after coaching at the University of South Carolina and West Virginia University. At both universities, she coached the hurdles, jumps and multi-events. She also coached for both the men's and women's teams.

As an alumna and former athlete at Clemson University from 1990-94, she was a three-time NCAA All-American in the long jump, two-time ACC champion in the 4X100 meter relay team, ACC runner-up in the long jump and ACC champion in the long jump.

After college, she competed in hopes of making the 1996 Olympic team in the long jump, a dream hasn't given up on achieving.

As a coach, White has spread her success to the athletes she has coached by producing three South Eastern Conference (SEC) champions, three NCAA qualifiers, three NCAA All Americans, one Big East performer and one Mid-Eastern Atlantic Conference (MEAC) runner-up.

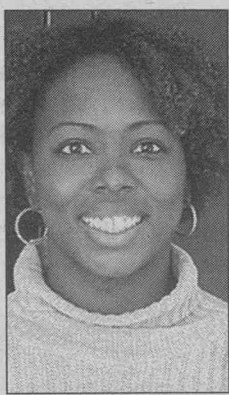
Currently, she is rebuilding the A&T women's track team. With a good recruiting class, the program should start to move up in the next four years. She hopes to be successful this year and make improvements in the MEAC.

Although White hasn't competed in a while, she still jumps in open meets, showing skills that make her a great coach.

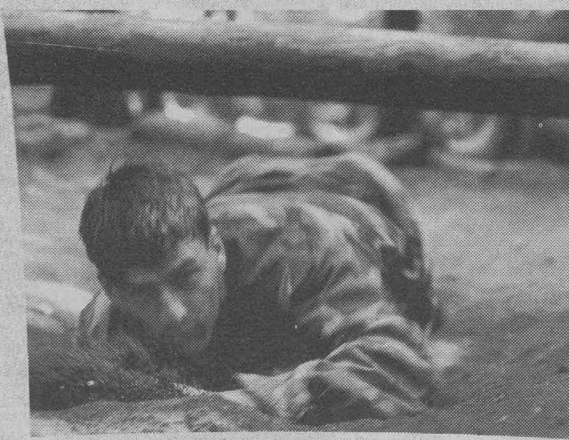
She works out with her athletes and tells them, "The way you practice is the way you will compete."

But the most important thing White imparts to her athletes is the need for dedication. She tells the girls you must be dedicated or it's just a waste of time being out there on the track. Dedication is what makes you work hard at anything you choose to do.

White is a native of Myrtle Beach, S.C., and married to Durward White, a software engineer for East Ridge Technologies. They are the parents of 11-month-old Tyra Danielle White.



McKelvey-White



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Math, reading labs get new equipment, more tutors

The Center for Student Success has made many notable changes in its Mathematics and Reading Skills Laboratories in Hodgkin Hall.

These include purchasing new workstations and chairs, painting the laboratories, purchasing two Smart Boards, and hiring computer laboratory attendants and tutors for English, chemistry and mathematics.

Ergonomically correct workstations and chairs help to provide an atmosphere that is conducive to learning. The paint in the laboratories helps to make the rooms brighter and more inviting to students.

In the Mathematics Skills Laboratory, the electrical poles were removed from the middle of the floor and the computers were rearranged to provide more open space.

The Smart Board is an interactive, electronic white-board that can be used with or without a projector.

When attached to a computer, it allows instructors and students to collaborate on electronic documents, create a wide variety of annotated objects, import information from almost any electronic source, and save, print and publish as web pages, or e-mail a complete record of class discussions and presentations.

The TCSS Team has participated in two interactive Staff Development Workshops for the Smart Board.

The center has hired seven mathematics tutors, three English tutors, two chemistry tutors and three computer laboratory attendants to assist students in the skills laboratories.

In addition, it has 12 tutors to assist student-athletes

for the spring semester.

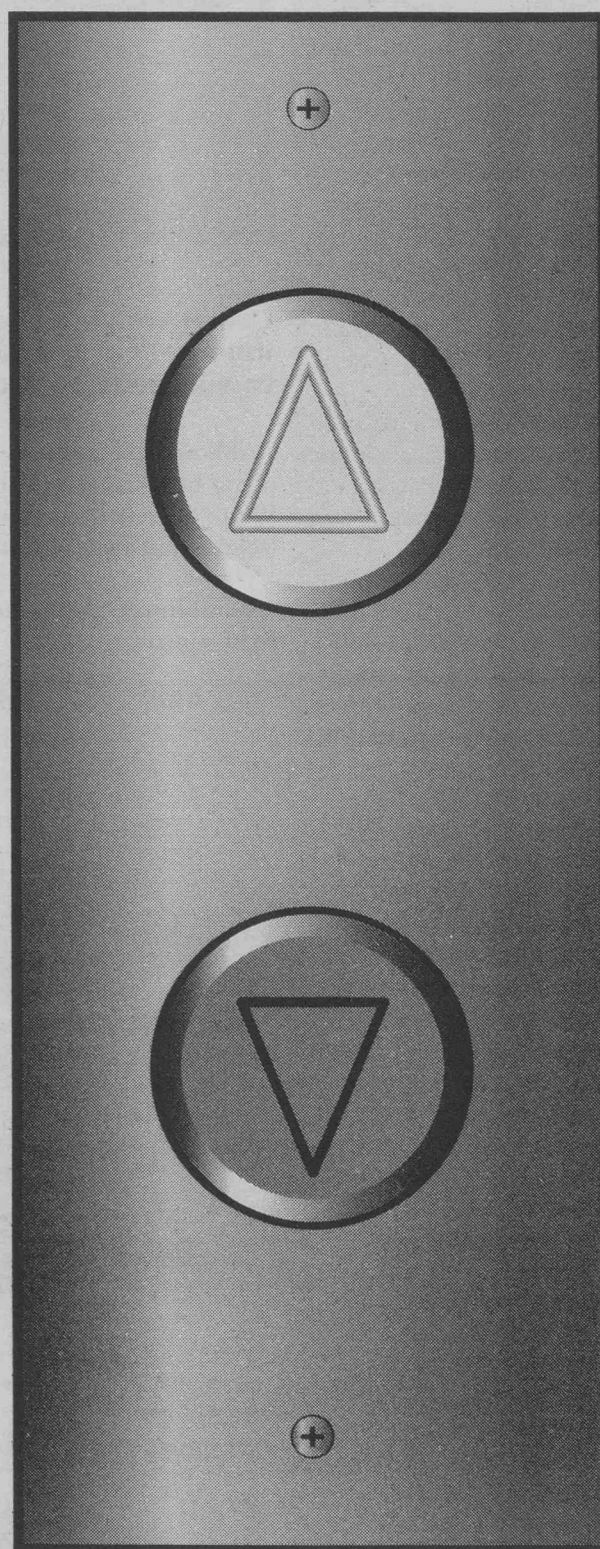
Both laboratories are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Tutorial schedules can be obtained from the Mathematics Skills Laboratory (301 Hodgkin Hall) or the Reading Skills Laboratory (303 Hodgkin Hall).

These schedules, as well as other campus tutorial information, also can be found on the web site, www.ncat.edu/~tcss.

For more information, please contact Gwendolyn Godard, coordinator for Technology Development, at 334-7838 or godardg@ncat.edu.

This article was provided by the Center for Student Success.



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Register Contributor

When Dr. Vallie Guthrie was an undergraduate at N.C. A&T, she learned more than facts from her teachers. She learned how to teach.

Guthrie, a chemistry professor at A&T and director of a program to boost science and math skills among secondary school students, was recognized nationally last fall with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.

President Bill Clinton established the award in 1996 to recognize the efforts of individuals and organizations that mentor and inspire young individuals to succeed in the fields of science, math and engineering.

Guthrie was one of 10 individuals to receive the award this year. The award includes a commemorative presidential certificate and a \$10,000 grant to the winners and the institutions.

Guthrie is also the director of the Greensboro Area Mathematics and Science Education Center (GAMSEC), a program to improve math and science skills for students in grades 7-12. It offers workshops and institutes for K-12 teachers in the fields of math, science, and technology.

She has directed the GAMSEC program at A&T for 16 years. It currently reaches 450 students in Greensboro and surrounding areas.

"I am a person that works quietly but very effectively," Guthrie said. "My general joy comes from the people I work with."

Guthrie, who favors the professional look of blazer, blouse, skirt and heels,

wears her hair short and looks to be younger than her 61 years. She was born in 1939, in Maple Hill, N.C. She attended A&T and graduated in 1961 with a degree in professional chemistry. She also joined the Delta Sigma Theta



Dr. Vallie Guthrie

Sorority while she was at A&T.

She attained her master's degree from Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., and went on to get her doctorate at American University in Washington, D.C.

Guthrie said that attending A&T has helped her a lot. "There is something special about going to school here," she said.

She learned how to teach her students from the professors that she had when she went to A&T.

"I saw how patient they were with

me...I try to understand, be there, and be kind."

Guthrie has written 30 science textbooks for students in kindergarten through 12th grade and post-secondary school. "I did not necessarily agree with the textbooks," Guthrie said, so she decided to write her own.

In 1976 Guthrie's students started using her textbooks. Guthrie said, "I was the first professor to write the book of the class I taught."

Guthrie has won other awards as well during her career. She won the Coca-Cola Foundation National Keeping Kids in School Program (1999), "The Giant in Science" Award from the Quality Education for Minorities Network (1998) and an Outstanding Service Award from Multicultural Science Education, an affiliate of the National Science Teachers Association.

"The main thing A&T has given me is a quality education," Guthrie said.

Guthrie has given a lot to A&T as well. "When students have questions to be answered, I take time to answer them,"

she said.

Lynda Jordan, chemistry professor, was mentored by Guthrie. "She is a good person and an excellent mentor," Jordan said.

"She is the kind of teacher people enjoy having and the type of faculty member you enjoy to work with," said Gilbert Casterlow, mathematics professor. "Many people teach the courses. She teaches the students."

When Guthrie is not teaching or mentoring she likes to write. She said her kids consider that to be work, but she thinks otherwise. Guthrie also likes to stay in shape. She said, "I am into fitness. I work out every day."

Guthrie also likes to travel. She has been to 47 states. She has also traveled to the Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.

She has been married to John Guthrie for 36 years. They have two children: John, a minister in New York City, and Valerie, who graduated with an engineering degree this past may and is currently attending graduate school at N.C. State University.

Engineering programs report grants, new programs

Engineering students have developed a computer simulation to predict the performance of an electric car. The simulation can be used to optimize the design of the motor, transmission, and other components to improve the efficiency and the acceleration of the car.

The students developed the simulation for a project in the junior level System Dynamics course in the mechanical engineering department. The instructors for the course are Dr. Mark Schulz and Dr. Anindya Ghoshal. The car is a Volkswagen Golf that was converted to battery power by students in the Automotive Technology Class at Northeast Guilford High School.

The National Science Foundation has awarded a five-year information technology research grant worth more than \$7 million to 10 investigators at A&T, Chapel Hill, Duke and Stanford for a collaboration, "Computational Geometry for Structural Biology and Bioinformatics." Dr. Solomon Bililign, an associate professor in the department of physics, is a co-investigator.

The proposal is to develop new computational techniques and paradigms for representing, sorting, searching, simulating, analyzing and visualizing biological structures.

A more efficient memory chip is the goal of an A&T project, just awarded continuation funding from the United States Department of Energy in Chicago.

The \$166,621 award will be used to fund, "Microstructure Property

Correlations in Oxide Ceramic Heterostructures," a project led by Dr. Clinton B. Lee.

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